DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 682 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th June. 1994 and state:

(a) whether Government have benefited from the move of excursion of income-tax payers from the purview of Public Distribution System (PDS):

(b) if so, the details thereof and if but, the reasons therefor.

(c) whether Government propose to extend this facility to some other Stales and Union Territories; and

(d) it so, the deaiis thereof and if not. the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTIUBUIION (SHRI KAMALUD-DiN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Central Government has not taken any decision to exclud; Income Tax payer$_B$ from the purvitw oi Public Distribution System (PDS) The recommendation of the Committee of Ministers on the National Policy on PDS, to exclude certain relatively better off categories of consumers from the supply of subsidised foodgrains through the PDS was made for ensuring the supply of larger and more meaningful quantities of PDS foodgrains to the needy and deserving sections of Ihe society. The recommendation was not made for achieving any reduction in the level n.f-food subsidy expenditure.

(c) and (d) Operational responsibility for implementation of the Public Distribution System including decisions on eligibility criteria, is thai of the State Government and UT Administrations. State Governments and UT Admini.slM-rictis can decide on their own regarding excluding of Income Tax payers from the supply of subsidised foodgrains and other PDS commodities.

Consumer consciousness amongst people

1755. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take some measures to generate more consumer consciousness amongst the people and make them to resist more us misleading claims in advertismems;

(b) if su, the details therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to amend the Drugs and Ma;;ic Remedies
Act, 1954 to achieve the above mentioned objectives;

(b) v.'hether Government also propose to utilise electronic media to stir up COT-sciousness about citizens' rights find consumer protection requirements:

(e) if so. details thereof and if not. the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government also pro-ras* to involve the States and Union Territories in this regard; and

(g) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MWISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALT'D-DIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Govenrnment has taken a number of measures to increase consumer consciousness amongst people. Such measures include preparation of audio visual materia!, printed literature in the form of booklets, brochures, posters, postcard size materia] etc. in the field of consume:' protection. It is also publishing a quarterly journal "Upaibhokta Jagaran" wlvch disseminates useful information to the consumers. The printed material is mad-available to consumer organisations free of cost.

(e) Yes. Sir.

(d) and (e) Government already utilising electronic media to generate consciousness amongst the citizens. The Ministry is sponsoring a weekly programme 'Apne Adhikar" on all the commercial brodcasting stations of AIR. The Doordarshan and its Icendras are also bringing out such programmes from time to time.

(f) and (g) The Ministry has written to the State Government and Union Territories to undertake various programmes to generate consumer awareness. The Ministry is also given financial assistance to them for this purpose.

Migrant J&K Government employees deprived of ration

1756. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:
SHRI RAM GOPAL VADAV;

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES. CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION he pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mig rant Government employees living in Jammu division have been deprived of their right to get their ration through thel Public Distribution System inspite of the fact that these employees are permanent ration card holders of Kashmir division; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL STJPLTJES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Central Government has not received any such report.

(b) Does not ari9e.

Redaction in sugar quota

1757. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the shortage of sugar aid high prices, the Fair-Price Shops throughout the country were not supplied full quota of sugar during the month of May and June 1994;

(b) if so, what was the total reduction of quota to the State Governments from May, 1994 onwards;

(c) which are the States whose sugar quota was reduced;

(d) to what extent the State Govern ments have opposed the cut in the sugar quota; and

(e) what is the'posftion of Madhya Pradesh in regard to the supply of tho sugar quota for distribution in the F.P.S.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) As 5 per cent *adhoc* increase in levy sugar allocations for the PDS was made to all States and UT Administrations w.e.f. August, 1991. Due to constraints in the availability of sugar the 5 per cent *adhoc* increase in the allocations has been withdrawn for oil States and UTs. w.e.f. April, 1994. The quota for individual fair price shops is, however, decided by the State Governments and TJT Administrations.

(d) Many State Governments have sought restoration of the 5 per cent *adhoc* increase in the levy sugar allocations.

(e) Madhya Pradesh is presently being given a monthly levy sugar allocation of 25,031 MTs. The Madhya Pradesh Gov-emment has also been given a festival quota of levy sugar of 7,536 MTs per annum for distribution through the Public Distribution System!.

Amendment in Edible Oil, Seed and Oil! Order, 1977

1758. SHRI SURESH PACHOURT: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES. CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state-

(a) whether considering the plea of the corporate and cooperative bodies for